Applicants : Frank W. Veit, David W. Zeitler, PhD, Rhonda J. Verploegen,

Andrew R. Black, Charles W. Bozarth and

Clyde Miin-Arng Ko

For : POSITIVE DISPLACEMENT SHOE AND SLAT SORTER

APPARATUS AND METHOD

Preliminary Amendment

Page : 23

REMARKS

Entry of the amendment prior to calculation of the filing fee is requested.

The claims are fully supported by the application as filed and its priority filings.

Accordingly, no new matter is added.

Enclosed is an Information Disclosure Statement.

An early and favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

FRANK W. VEIT, DAVID W. ZEITLER, PHD, RHONDA J. VERPLOEGEN, ANDREW R. BLACK, CHARLES W. BOZARTH and CLYDE MIIN-ARNG KO

By: Van Dyke, Gardner, Linn & Burkhart, LLP

Dated: February 17, 2004.

Frederick S. Burkhart Registration No. 29 288

2851 Charlevoix Drive, S.E., Suite 207

Post Office Box 888695

Grand Rapids, Michigan 49588-8695

(616) 988-4104

FSB:djr

RAP04 P-574C